

Competitiveness at Leiden University

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Universiteit Leiden
The Netherlands

Leiden University. The university to discover.

Leiden University



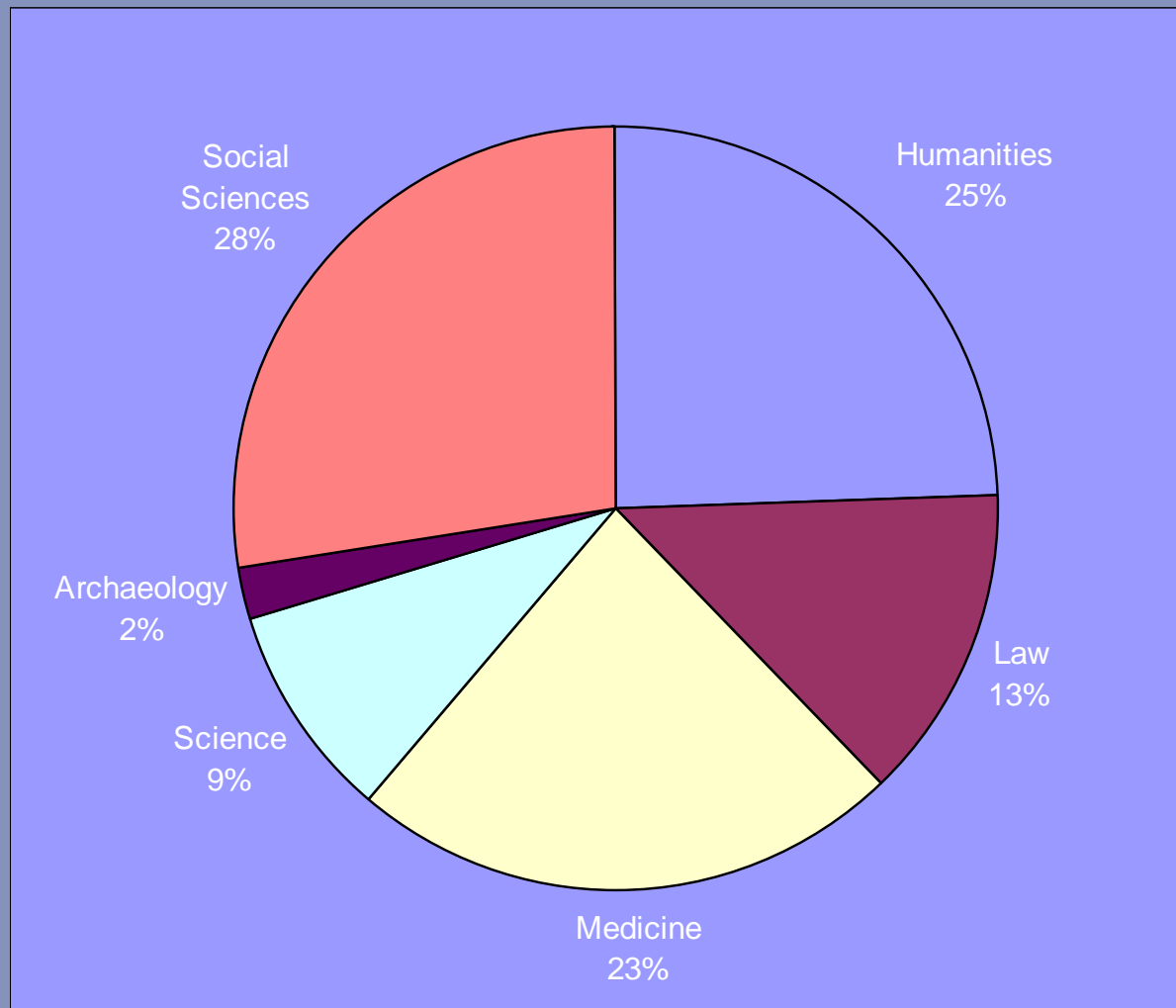
- Oldest university in the Netherlands
- Founded 1525 by William of Orange
- Campuses in Leiden and in The Hague

Leiden University: facts and figures

- 18,000 Students (not including PhD candidates)
 - 11,750 undergraduate
 - 8,250 postgraduate (including about 2,000 PhD candidates)
- 11,100 female
- 6,900 male



Division of students



Faculties of Leiden University

- Leiden Law School
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
- Faculty of Archaeology
- Faculty of Humanities

(in order of seniority)



Leiden University: facts and figures

(not including the Faculty of Medicine/University Hospital)

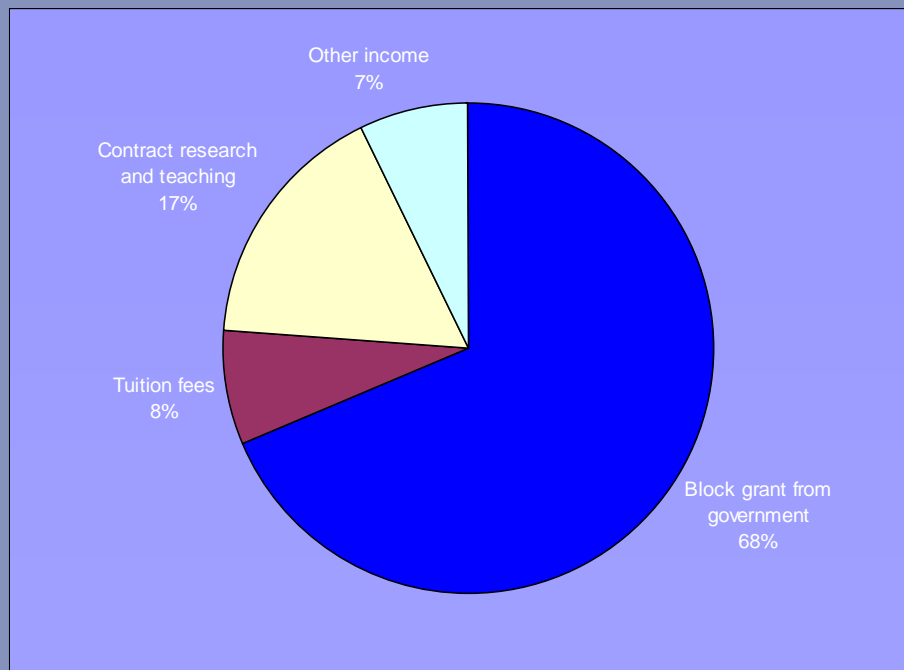
- Academic staff 1,150 fte (1,450 people)
(including about 300 professors, both full and by special appointment)
- PhD candidates 600 fte (650 people)
(only those employed by the university)
- Support staff 1,450 fte (1,850 people)

- Male 1,800 fte (2,100 people)
- Female 1,400 fte (1,850 people)



Annual budget (2010, in M€)

- Block grant from government	276.5
- Tuition fees	30.5
- Contract research and teaching	67.8
- Other income	<u>29.0</u>
	403.8



Competitiveness

Important aspects:

- Quality of teaching
- Quality and focus of research
- Quality of students (internationalisation)

Quality assurance - teaching

The Dutch legal and institutional framework:

- Since 1989: assessment of university degree programmes at national level
- Accreditation of all degree programmes by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) since 2002

Quality assurance - teaching

Initial accreditation of new programmes:

- Efficiency check at national system level by the Committee for Safeguarding Efficiency in Higher Education
- Quality assessment of the programme proposal by the Accreditation Organisation

Quality assurance - teaching

- Accreditation remains valid for 6 years
- Existing programmes are assessed by a recognised Quality Assessment Agency (e.g. QANU) before reaccreditation by NVAO

Quality assurance - teaching

- Without initial accreditation, no recognised degrees can be awarded for a new programme and no government funding can be obtained
- Loss of accreditation of existing programmes has the same effect
- Operational costs are high (€1,500-3,000 per programme annually)

Quality assurance - teaching

Three cycles:

1. Every year:
evaluation of courses, and programmes
-> planning improvement and adaptations
-> implementation of plans; etc
2. Every three years: mid-term review, based on
outcomes of peer review by external panel
3. Every six years: peer review and accreditation
renewal

Quality assurance - research

National framework: Standard Evaluation Protocol, agreed between the universities, the research council and the Royal Academy

- Assessment by external peers every six years
- Mid-term self-evaluation

Quality assessment - research

Aspects evaluated include

- Quality
- Productivity
- Relevance
- Viability



Quality assessment - research

Bibliometric analysis:

- number of citations per publication (field normalised)

- number of publications belonging to the top 5% of most frequently cited papers in the field

Research Profile Areas I

Arts and Humanities

- Interaction between Legal Systems (Law)
- Political Legitimacy: Institutions and Identities (Social Sciences, Humanities, Law)
- Language Diversity in the World (Humanities)
- Global Interaction of People, Culture and Power through the Ages (Humanities, Social Sciences, Archaeology)
- Asian Modernities and Traditions (Humanities, Social Sciences, Law)



Research Profile Areas II

STEM Disciplines

- Brain Function and Dysfunction over the Lifespan
(Medicine, Humanities, Social Sciences, Science)
- Bioscience: the Science Base of Health
(Science, Medicine)
- Fundamentals of Science (Science)
- Translational Drug Discovery and Development
(Science, Medicine)
- Vascular and Regenerative Medicine (Medicine)
- Health, Prevention and the Human Life Cycle
(Medicine, Social Sciences)



Internationalisation

- Many foreign professors in 16th and 17th centuries
- More nationally oriented in 18th and 19th centuries
- Increasing international orientation of research after ww II

Internationalisation of research

- Present-day research knows no frontiers
- Individual researchers have international collaborative networks
- In some fields (science, medicine) the majority of publications result from international cooperation
- International consortia often prerequisite for European grants
- Institutional networks can facilitate research collaboration

Institutional networks

League of European Research Universities

(LERU)

Universiteit van

Amsterdam

Universitat de **Barcelona**

University of **Cambridge**

University of **Edinburgh**

Universität **Freiburg**

Université de **Genève**

Universität **Heidelberg**

Helsingin yliopisto

Karolinska Institutet

K.U. **Leuven**

Universiteit **Leiden**

Imperial College London

University College London

Lunds universitet

Università di **Milano**

LMU **München**

University of **Oxford**

UMPC Paris

Université **Paris-Sud 11**

Université de **Strasbourg**

Universiteit **Utrecht**

Universität **Zürich**

Internationalisation of teaching

Why raise the number of international students?

- larger pool to select students from
- allows more selectivity while
- increasing the number of postgraduate students

Increased selectivity means better quality of students, making the university more attractive for top-level researchers

More students in postgraduate programmes implies:

- more resources for infrastructure and facilities, so
- improved quality



Internationalisation - challenges

Relatively few international students:

- small country, relatively unknown
- national degree system
- language not widely known

Internationalisation - solutions

- Introduction of bachelor/master system in 2002
- Delivering of most master's programmes in English
- 'Holland promotion' at national HE level
- Intensive student recruitment by Leiden University
- Providing grants for needy students